

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application; claims 1 and 7 are independent claims. In the Office Action mailed February 24, 2006, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 on various grounds. Applicant has amended claims 2-6, 8 and 9 as discussed below.

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Shimamura et al (U.S. Publication No. 2003/30153372 A1) in view of Lee (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0198433 A1) and claim 4 is rejected over Shimamura in view of Lee and further in view of Priestman et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2005/50245288 A1). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Shimamura in view of Lee and further in view of Priestman and further in view of Wakabayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,565).

Of the collection of references that have been cited as rendering the pending claims obvious, Lee appears to be the most significant in its alleged disclosure of a portable wireless terminal inside a hinge. In fact, a careful reading of Lee reveals that it does not teach or disclose Applicants' claimed invention, namely, "a camera module disposed inside of said connecting section with an optical axis of said camera module in parallel with said axial line" as required by independent claim 1 and "a camera module disposed inside of said hollow space, with an optical axis in parallel with said axial line" as required by independent claim 7. Applicants emphasize the quoted language of each of these independent claims because the cited prior art, and in particular, Lee fails to teach or disclose all of the limitations required by each of these clauses. As a result, Lee is inadequate in combination with any of the other cited references to render any of claims 1-9 obvious.

As shown in Fig. 2, Lee discloses a portable wireless terminal 200 having two casings, main body 201 and folder 202. Terminal 200 includes a connecting section that mounts the two

casings such that they rotate around an axial line perpendicular to a direction in which the two casings are overlapped. The connecting section includes side hinge arms 215 provided on the main body 201 and hinge arm 225, provided on the lower end of folder 202. The folder 202 is rotated about a hinge axis H1 formed by connecting the center hinge arm 225 to the side hinge arms 215 to be opened away from and closed toward the main body 201.

As further shown in Fig. 2, a camera module is connected to one of the side hinge arms 215. However, as shown in Fig. 3, the camera module 300 is inserted into a receiving hole 217 formed on one outside end of the side hinge arm 213. The camera lens assembly 300 is rotatably connected to the hinge axis H1, thereby being capable of photographing a subject in various directions. As further shown in Fig. 2, and explained in the specification, the camera lens assembly 300 is also configured to be drawn in and out from the main body 201 in the direction of the hinge axis H1.

As noted above, independent claim 1 requires "a camera module disposed inside of said connecting section with an optical axis of said camera module in parallel with said axial line" and independent claim 7 requires "a camera module disposed inside of said hollow space, with an optical axis in parallel with said axial line." Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Lee does not disclose a camera "inside" of the connecting section. Rather, in Lee, as explained above, the camera lens assembly, is an appendage to the connecting section that has been connected thereto to both rotate about and move in an out in the direction of the hinge axis H1. Secondly, as the Examiner realizes in his description of Lee as teaching "a portable wireless terminal 100 including a camera inside a hinge (see Par. [0029] and Fig. 1," even if Lee teaches a camera inside a hinge, which it does not, Lee does not disclose a camera module having an "optical axis" that is "in parallel with said axial line," as required by independent claims 1 and 7. Again, as

explained, and as made very clear from Figures 1-3 of Lee and paragraph [0029] thereof, Lee discloses a camera lens that is connected to and rotates about a hinge axis, not one that is inside or parallel to it. Accordingly, even if the teaching of Lee is combined with the system of Shimamura, all the limitations Applicants' invention are still not met. Thus, claims 1 and 7, and all claim dependent thereon, are not rendered obvious by the combination of Shimamura and Lee, or the combination of any other cited references.

Dependent claim 4 is rejected as obvious over Shimamura in view of Lee and further in view of Priestman et al. First, dependent claim 4, which depends from claim 1, is not obvious for the same reasons independent claim 1 is not obvious. On a separate ground, dependent claim 4 is not obvious inasmuch as Priestman et al. fails to disclose "said camera module" that "is fixed to said casing in which said display section is disposed" as required by claim 4. Since claim 4 depends from claim 1, "said camera module" refers to the camera module of claim 1 that is "disposed inside of said connecting section with an optical axis of said camera module in parallel with said axial line." Priestman et al., on the other hand, discloses a conventional mobile telephone handset having a camera module 124 fixed to a casing 110 in which the display section 126 is disposed (Fig. 2B). Priestman et al. fails to disclose the claimed camera module of claim 4. Thus, dependent claim 4 is not rendered obvious by the combination of Shimamura and Lee or the combination of Shimamura and Lee further in view of Priestman et al.

Dependent claim 5 is not obvious over the combination of Shimamura and Lee in that Shimamura fails to teach or disclose "an image which is taken by said camera module is rotated by 90 degrees with no change to the aspect ratio of said image and then is displayed on said display section when the measurement result is that said relative angle is 90 degrees."

Dependent claim 8 stands rejected as obvious over Shimamura in view of Lee and further in view of Priestman et al. and further in view of Wakabayashi et al. First, dependent claim 8, which depends from independent claim 7, is not obvious for the same reasons independent claim 7 is not obvious. On a separate ground, dependent claim 8 is not obvious over the cited combination inasmuch as Wakabayashi fails to disclose any of the additional elements of dependent claim 8.

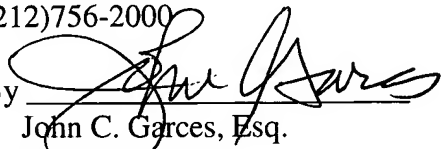
Claims 2-6, 7 and 9 were objected to due to certain informalities. Applicants have amended these claims to address the Examiner's objections. Applicants have also amended claim 1 to address the Examiner's rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Applicants respectfully submit that by this amendment all rejections have been overcome and informalities have now been corrected, and the application is in condition for allowance.

The Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any fees required for the entry of this Response, including fees for an extension of time, and any further fees that are properly assessable in this case, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 848075/0073. In the event that an extension of time is needed for entry of this Response that is not otherwise provided for, such extension of time is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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